Two INL research teams collaborated to analyze geographic data about advanced vehicles. The award winners (clockwise from upper left): Patti McGuire, Dan Jensen, James Francfort, Trent Armstrong, Randy Lee, Julie Brizzee, Sera White, Denise Jensen and Glenn Russell (not pictured).

INL wins geospatial technology award

By Keith Arterburn, *INL Communications & Governmental Affairs*

Idaho National Laboratory's Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity and Geospatial Science and Engineering teams received a Special Achievements in GIS (SAG) award during the ESRI International User Conference (Esri UC) July 25 in San Diego.

"We have innovatively collaborated with INL's Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity staff and applied geographic technology, including a variety of Esri GIS software, to manage, analyze and integrate geographic data pertaining to grid-connected vehicles and the electric vehicle supply equipment needed for recharging," said Randy Lee, group lead for INL's Geospatial Science and Engineering team.

About 14,000 geospatial information science experts and technologists attend Esri UC each year and INL's team was one of 150 honored for innovative application of geographic technologies. Jack Dangermond, chief executive officer of Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), said more than 100,000 award submissions were received for the annual conference.

The award team consists of James Francfort, Randy Lee, Sera White, Patti McGuire, Denise Jensen, Julie Brizzee, Dan Jensen, Trent Armstrong and Glenn Russell.

INL's team was one of 150 honored for innovative application of geographic technologies.

"At INL, we employ a variety of ESRI products such as ArcMap, ArcServer, ModelBuilder and Business Analyst, to perform analysis that enhances advanced vehicle testing reporting and research," said Sera White, who attended the conference to receive INL's Special Achievement in GIS Award.

"It was an informative and exciting conference this year. We saw some highly innovative applications of geographic information technologies," she added.

Tim Murphy, department manager for Energy Storage and Transportation Systems at INL, said, "Our innovative application of this software helps analyze information about vehicles with advanced transportation technologies and how they use public charging infrastructure."

The INL team uses specialized software to perform analysis for special reports and research performed by the Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity (AVTA), including:

- Incorporating geographic information into vehicle performance algorithms that characterize driving intensity and vehicle route type, and
- Mapping public charging infrastructure within the Electric Vehicle Project, which is researching the deployment of more than 9,000 electric-drive vehicles and electric vehicle supply equipment.

INL conducts the AVTA for the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program. INL's AVTA researchers benchmark and validate the performance of various light-duty advanced vehicle technologies, including grid-connected pure battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and extended range electric vehicles. The use of domestically produced electricity for transportation reduces the U.S. dependence on foreign oil, while improving the nation's air quality.

More information on the 2012 Special Achievement in GIS Award winners is at the conference website.

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Feature Archive